conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). Last two surveys were carried out during 1993-94 and 1999-2000. As per these surveys, unemployment rate among educated youth (age group 15-29 years) on usual status basis has gone down from approximately 18.5% in 1993-94 to 14.8% in 1999-2000.

(c) The approach to Tenth Plan focusses on providing gainful high quality employment to the additions to the labour force and it is listed as one of the monitorable objectives for the 10th Plan and beyond. The growth strategy of 10th Plan would lay emphasis on rapid growth of those sectors which are likely to create high quality employment opportuities. Particular attention would be paid to the policy environment influencing a wide range of economic activities which have a large employment potential. Besides this, the Government is implementing Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) to provide employment opportunities to educated unemployed youth. This will also help tide over the problem of unemployment in Himachal Pradesh.

Unorganised Sector Workers Bill, 2003

3041. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR:
SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring the Unorganised Sector Workers Bill, 2003;

(b) whether this Bill provides for establishment of separate welfare funds both at Central and State levels;

(c) whether the funds would be managed by a Board of Trustees or by the ESIC; and

(d) whether the sex workers would be covered by this act and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government has drafted the Unorganised Sector Workers Bill, 2003, which is still at the stage of consideration.

Child labour in silk industry

3042. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an N.G.O. namely Human Rights Watch' has in a report stated that thousands of children toil hard as virtual slaves in country's silk industry; and

(b) what new steps Government are taking to eliminate the curse of child labour in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) Yes.Sir.

(b) Government of India has taken steps for withdrawal and rehabilitation of child labour working in hazardous occupations to reduce the incidence of child labour in a particular district through the Schemes of National Child Labour Projects (NCLPs) and Grant-in-aid to Non-Governmental Organisations/Voluntary Organisations. Under the Scheme, special schools have been set up in the child labour endemic districts with the provision for non-formal/formal education, vocational training, stipend, nutrition, health-care etc. So far, 100 NCLPs have been sanctioned in 13 child labour endemic States for coverage of 2.11 lakh children.

In the Tenth Plan, the Government proposes to implement the Policy and programmes for elimination of child labour in a more focused, integrated and convergent manner. The Government would be making attempts to eliminate child labour from hazardous occupations and progressively move towards elimination of child labour in all its forms in the coming year.

Subsidiary Corporations under ESIC

3043. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Employees State Insurance Corporation Review Panel has recommended for setting up of subsidiary corporations in connection with medical reimbursement of employees;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Review Panel;